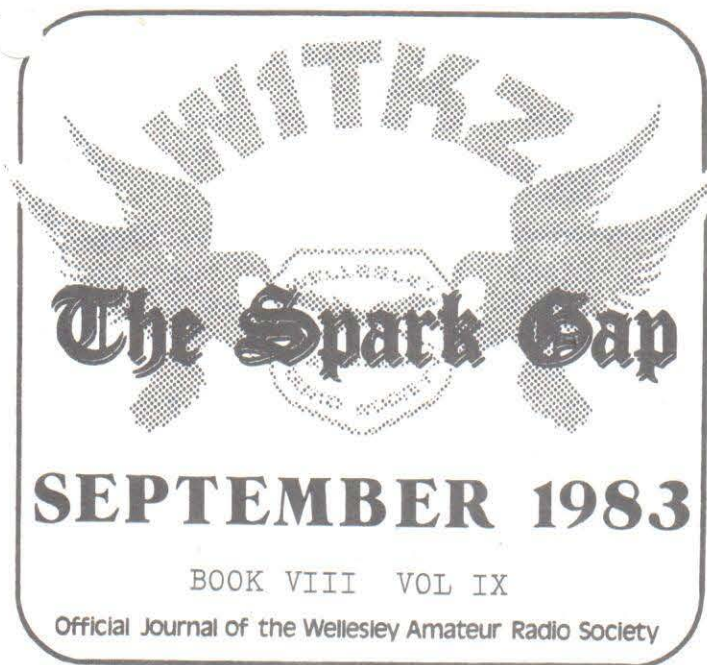




Hereabouts...

With the coming of autumn it is time to get a new year of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society into full swing. We have on tap our usual variety of activities throughout the year and have some ideas for new ones as well. See the year's calendar of events at the back of the newsletter, and save it for reference throughout the year.

We are planning a special meeting to start the year to welcome back all our old members and also to try to introduce the club to new people. The September 15 meeting has thus been designated Newcomer's Night. Letters have been sent to the graduates of our recent Novice class extending a special invitation and in addition we would like any of you who know someone who is not now a club member to bring him along.

The program will be appropriate for anyone new to Amateur Radio, someone interested in finding out about Amateur Radio, or someone new to the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society. We plan

to have several short talks on different aspects of Amateur Radio that will be of special interest to the newcomer to our hobby. We also will be telling about our club through a description of the upcoming year and a slide show of previous year's activities.

Please plan on attending the evening of September 15, starting at 7:30 p.m. and bring someone along with you. Also, remember your name tag and bring along a QSL card for a display we will be setting up. Don't forget that we have moved into our more pleasant new club headquarters in the Wellesley Red Cross house at 211 Washington Street, right at the intersection of Routes 9 and 16.

We have a couple of things coming up before the meeting also. The weekend of September 10-11 we will take our last trip of the year to Mt. Equinox in Manchester, Vermont for the September ARRL VHF QSO Party. Hopefully the nice weather we have had our last two trips will continue, and maybe we will have some nice band openings as well to liven things up. In any event, VHF contesting is an interesting activity and if you would like to come up, please do.

The fall General class will begin Monday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. and will be held weekly for about twelve sessions. Meetings will be held at the club.

Erik Thoresen, K1OGF, will be hosting a club net on our repeater, W1TKZ/R, 147.63/03 every Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. For the latest word on club events, or just to rag chew with some fellow WARSites, check in. For more details, see the Mailbag section.

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

*****NEWCOMER'S NIGHT*****

September 15, 1983 at 7:30 p.m.
Wellesley Red Cross house

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Number 59, dated July 12, 1983:

FCC has new Novice exam procedures effective August 31. After the applicant passes both sending and receiving tests at 5 wpm, the volunteer examiner administers a 20 question test taken from 200 questions furnished by FCC in PR Bulletin 1035A. The names of successful candidates are certified by the examiner and sent with forms 610 to FCC, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Volunteer examiners must be over 18, hold FCC General or higher licenses, not related to applicant, not be in employer/employee or employee/employer relationship with applicant, or own a significant interest in or be employed by any company or entity engaged in manufacture, distribution of Amateur Radio equipment or publications used in preparing for Amateur exams. Forms 610 and PR Bulletin 1035A can be obtained from FCC or ARRL Headquarters. Please include S.A.S.E.

Number 64, dated July 28, 1983:

The FCC has released a Report and Order terminating PR Docket 82624 and amending the Rules in Parts 2 and 97 pertaining to Amateur transmitter power limitations. Effective August 29, 1983, most Amateur power limits will be expressed in terms of peak envelope power. The new rules impose a 1500 watt peak envelope power output limit on the majority of Amateur transmissions. However, operators employing AM double sideband voice may continue to use the present 1000 watt DC input terms until 1990. The new rules also place a 200 watt PEP output limit on transmitters operating in Novice subbands, replacing the present 250 watt DC input limit. Additionally, effective radiated power has been redefined in terms of PEP output from the transmitter. The special power limits at 1900 to 2000 kHz have been specified in PEP output figures, and power limits for 450 MHz transmitters located around certain military in-

stallations have been redesignated in PEP output terms. Details to appear in September and October OST.

"New Tickets"



The final results of our spring Novice Class are in and we are proud to announce that nine of the class members now have received their Novice licenses. Welcome to the world of Amateur Radio to Rita Baker, KALKJN; Robert Chisholm, KALKHT; Bill McDonnell, KALKHV; Americo Procopio, KALKHU; Daniel Quintiliani, KALKLP; Norman Rice, KALKJO; Dwight Williams, KALKKS; Virginia Williams, KALKKT; and Warren Brewster, KALKHS.

Also, congratulations go to Bob Drapeau who has become very well known at the FCC this summer. He got his Novice in one of our classes a while ago, and this summer has gone from KALJXS to NLCRJ and is now KBLJM and the holder of an Advanced class license. Bob says he is going to have to rest awhile before going for the Extra however.

Finally, Gary Weissel, KALJWE, passed his General early in the summer and received his ticket the morning of Field Day. Congratulations! Gary, who is only twelve, is already talking about getting his Extra.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

We would like to welcome as a new members of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society several people from the spring Novice class. Welcome to Warren Brewster, KALKHS, of Natick; Rita A. Baker, KALKJN, of Southboro; and Americo Procopio, KALKHV, of Needham.

We would also like to welcome one of our old members back into the club, namely Dick Weissel, WALHRV. Along with Dick we would like to welcome his two sons Gary, KALJWE and Mike, KALIKW, as new members. Hope to see lot of you fellows this year as we do on Field Day.

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society



EDITOR:

NELS ANDERSON, K1UR
92 BISHOP DRIVE
FRAMINGHAM, MASS. 01701
872-5259

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, FCC RULES AND REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SEND THEIR ARTICLES TO THE EDITOR. ITEMS PRINTED IN THE "SPARK GAP" MAY BE REPRINTED BY OTHER AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATIONS PROVIDED THE AUTHOR AND THE "SPARK GAP" ARE GIVEN CREDIT.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS \$8.00. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
211 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181



MINUTES

Meeting of July 21, 1983:

The meeting was opened at 8:15 p.m. by incoming President Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, with 8 present.

The main topic of discussion was the calendar for 1983/84. Dates for most of our major activities for the year were decided on. Also discussed were events that will require changes this year, such as the Message Fair where we will not be allowed to return to the Natick Mall.

The present state of the repeater and what can be done about it was discussed.

The meeting was closed at 10:21 p.m.

Meeting of August 18, 1983:

The meeting was opened at 7:41 p.m. by President David Curry, K1TK, with 13 present.

The secretary's report was given.

Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, made a motion to spend \$341 for the installation of AC power on Mt. Equinox for our VHF contest efforts. The motion was passed. Bill Hanlon, N1ADY, requested to be recorded as opposed.

The budget for 1983/84 was discussed in light of our spending for 1982/83. A budget proposal was prepared for presentation at the next meeting.

Volunteers to teach parts of the General Class were solicited.

Newcomer's Night was discussed and people were chosen to give talks and other presentations.

An announcement was made on the club net to be started September 18. The possibility of an HF net was also discussed.

The VHF contest coming up was briefly discussed.

The future plans of the club in general were discussed, including ways to interest less active members and attract new members.

Bill Hanlon, N1ADY, agreed to head a committee to find a way to honor club members who have made extraordinary contributions over the years.

The meeting was closed at 10:34.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Dick Paret, W1ZLQ, 762-5074

VICE PRESIDENT:

David Curry, K1TK, 237-2450

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Nels Anderson, K1UR, 872-5259

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Allan Bacon, K1BA, 749-4382

TREASURER:

C.J. McDonald, W1BUM, 332-6091

FUND RAISING:

Kevin Kelly, W1YHV, 242-0341

OPERATING ACTIVITIES:

Erik Thoresen, K1OGF, 655-7048

VHF CONTEST

by Nels Anderson, K1UR

Our trip to Mt. Equinox, Vermont for the June ARRL VHF QSO Party on the weekend of June 11 and 12 brought a number of surprises. First was the absolutely perfect weather. Unlike the usual fog and cold we have come to expect, the entire weekend from Friday right through Monday was sunny without a hint of rain. It was even hot at times, though not hot by the standards of ground level.

Of course we were not there to enjoy the weather, but to operate VHF and UHF and that we did with some success. Band conditions were somewhat better than average but nothing spectacular. Even so, we managed to nearly equal our previous best effort which came on a weekend of fantastic band conditions.

Actually, natural conditions did provide some excitement at the end of the contest. With only half an hour left, a spectacular aurora began. Not only did this allow us to work some new sections, but we were actually able to see the aurora clearly.

This outcome was not the result of luck but was due to some improved equipment, especially on 220 MHz. Arnie Adelman, W1GCI, built an almost entirely new station for this band which was at least the equivalent in quality to what we have on any other band. As a result, we were finally able to take advantage of the many people on 220 for new contacts and multipliers. The end result was that we got several times the number of contacts we used to get on this band, and more multipliers than on 432. The antennas on this band were a pair of Boomers which provided additional gain.

Other bands were also improved. On 2 meters, the switching arrangements were finally perfected so that the preamp would not blow up in the middle

of the contest. This station worked flawlessly in fact. On 432 we got the amplifier to work better so that it was running close to 200 watts output as compared to the well under 100 we used to get.

Our end results were as follows:

BAND	QSO'S	POINTS	MULT.
50	264	264	37
144	341	341	23
220	69	138	22
432	84	168	21
1296	13	39	8
2304	2	6	2
10000	2	6	2
TOTALS	775	962	115

SCORE: 110,630

We had several new operators this time in addition to our usual crew. They were Tom Kinahan, N1CPE, Bill Hanlon, N1ADY, and Mike Kiron, N1CGF. Also operating were David Curry, K1TK, Dave Kent, N2AWG, Arnie Adelman W1GCI, Bill Downing, W1PQY, Har Cross, W1OOP, and Nels Anderson, K1UR. Several non-club members visited the stations and did some operating as well.

During the weekend we also had the usual auto race up the hill for which we provided additional operators not to mention spectators. This year the course record was broken, with a time for the five mile course of about 4:44. If you've seen the road up the hill with its many hairpin turns, you know how fast that is.

THE WESTLINK REPORT THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

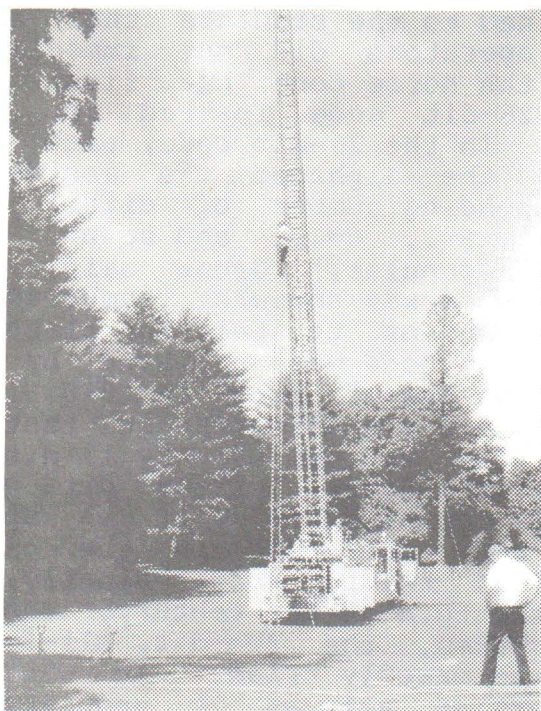
The Federal Communications Commission now has only five members. Both Joseph Fogarty and Steven Sharp retired on June 30th, and under a cutback mandated by Congress, the reduced number will become the permanent Commission level. There is one slot to be filled to replace Anne P. Jones, and the President is expected to fill the position with a female Republican.

Westlink Report, July 29, 1985

FIELD DAY!

by Nels Anderson, KLUR

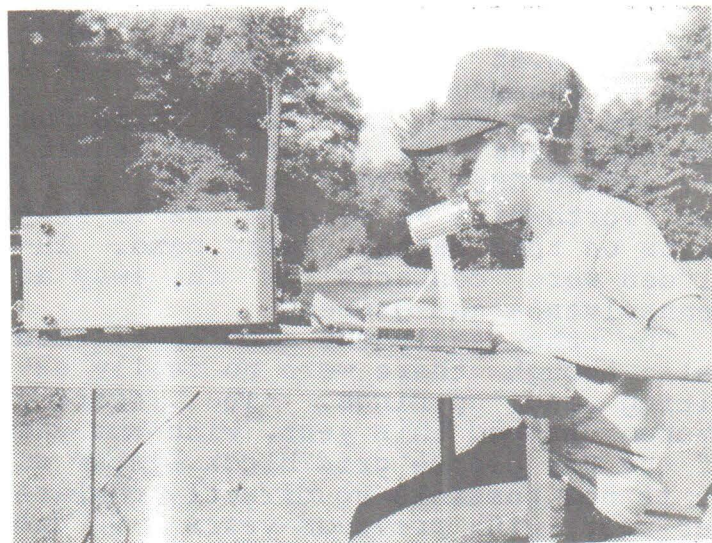
The beautiful weather we had for the VHF Contest continued during Field Day weekend. Once again we set up at the Wellesley Town Hall for a weekend of emergency preparedness testing and some fun. The only thing missing was people. Where was everyone? We were short of hands right from the start and as a result did not get set up in time. Only two people stayed overnight. Our score shows this lack of interest.



The Wellesley Fire Department sets up our 70 foot tower.

With the help of the Wellesley Fire Department ladder truck, we put up a seventy foot tower, ten feet taller than the one we raised last year. It certainly was an impressive sight sitting there in the middle of the Town all lawn. This year the truck did come back to take the tower down which was a great help.

Two stations were operated. The tribander on the tower gave us a good signal on the higher HF bands. We even worked some DX, such as Hawaii and Europe. The four element forty meter wire beam once again provided a good signal. Actually, the most amazing thing about this antenna is that we manage to untangle it every year! On eighty meters we had to struggle by with just a dipole.



Gary Weissel, KALJWE, cranks out QSOs on 40 meter phone.

Our end result was exactly 1600 points on 547 contacts broken down as follows:

BAND	PHONE	CW
80	--	42
40	71	171
20	135	40
15	3	--
10	79	--
TOTAL	294	253

THE WESTLINK REPORT

THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

AMSAT OSCAR 10 Mode B is now available for general use. The first of the two transponders on board A-O-10 was opened on August 6th at 1430 UTC. Mode B relays CW, SSB and other narrow band modes from 70 cm to 2 meters.

Westlink Report, August 12, 1983

UHF CONTEST

by Nels Anderson, K1UR

Summer would not be complete without yet another trip to Mt. Equinox for the UHF contest. This years event took place the weekend of August 6 and 7 and saw our biggest effort yet. Once again we managed to avoid the unpleasant weather of past years. Although the fog did roll in at times, for the most part it was sunny and warm on the mountaintop.

This year for the first time we operated 1296 MHz in addition to 220, 432 and 10 GHz. This proved to be well worthwhile as we made twelve contacts on this rather exotic band. Included were contacts as far away as Pennsylvania and Quebec.

The other equipment also performed well, though there were no really exciting band openings. The scoring system changed this year, with the use of the 2x1 degree grid block system so it is not possible to directly compare our score with previous years. We did make many more contacts than before, so it is safe to say this was our best UHF Contest ever. The breakdown by bands is as follows:

BAND	QSO'S	POINTS	GRIDS
220	33	99	14
432	54	162	18
1296	12	72	7
10000	2	24	2
TOTALS	101	357	41

SCORE: 14,637

Without six and two meters the going is a lot slower so there was more time to look around at the sites on the mountain such as the FAA towers, Barbo's grave, and Lookout Rock. Most of the operators also took time out for dinner at the restaurant at Sky Line Inn.

This years operators were: Hank Ostrowski, VE3CGL; Arnie Adelman, W1GCI; Bill Downing, W1PQY; Tom

Kinahan, N1CPE; David Kent, N2AWG David Curry, K1TK; and Nels Anderson, K1UR. We also had several other club members come up for visits during the contest as well as several other hams who just happened to be visiting the mountain.

CHUCKLE KORN

EARLY PREDECESSORS TO MORSE

from GEARVAKf Bulletin, via ARNS

Old timer Elmer Grunt lectured on the 26-dit code system last week at the Traditionalist Radio Amateur Program Class "C" license class. Grunt explained to the students that early radio operators did not immediately adopt the Morse code, but first used the 26-dit code instead for many years. In the 26-dit code, each letter of the alphabet was assigned a corresponding number of dits. That is, A=. B=.. C=... and so on. "Although popular," Grunt said, "the 26-dit code was somewhat cumbersome." Grunt went on to tell the class how the 26-dit code was replaced by the "Dit and Space" code in 1879. This code system was different in that it required a maximum of only 13 dits to form a character. These dits were used in combination with 13 spaces which were performed in the carrier-off or key-up mode. Finally, before the turn of the century, another code system, the "No-dit, All-Space" code was briefly tried. It was the simplest of all as it required no dits. All characters were formed in the key-up mode. In fact, no key was necessary. Unfortunately, this code, while using very little spectrum space, was very difficult to copy and never gained acceptance among hams of the day. Still, now and then on straight key night, one is likely to hear an old timer like Elmer Grunt get on the air with the 26-dit code, the Dit and Space code or the No-dit, All-Space code.

President's Message

by Dick Paret, W1ZLQ

Greetings! Welcome to a new and exciting club year. Our general course starts Monday September 12 at 7:00 p.m. Our first meeting of the new year is Thursday September 15. The meeting has been designated "Newcomers Night". It promises to be fun and informative. Look up the details elsewhere in the Spark Gap. Starting September 18 Erik Thoresen, K1OGF, will NCS a net on the society's repeater. Sounds like listening to 147.03 MHz on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. will be a great way to keep informed of all the activities.

Speaking of all the activities, study the included calendar for 83/84 (many activities will be added throughout the year). See if there is one or more you would like to concentrate on. We don't expect all of you participate in all the events however if there isn't a single activity that interests you perhaps you could propose one the society could share. Be assured I want to hear from you. Let's make this the best ham year we've ever had. Thank you.

HELP! I know I said in my greeting that I don't expect everyone to participate in every event, however we do need help. If you can volunteer to a position or a committee please sign up at a meeting or call me. Some of the appointed positions in the society are:

- Election Committee
- Education Committee
- Station Manager
- Equipment Manager
- Publicity Committee
- Technical Advisor
- Spark Gap Reporters
- ARRL Emergency Coordinator
- ARRL Official Bulletin Station
- Repeater Committee

WARSWAS is coming!
Details next month

Dues Dues Dues...

With the start of the new club year it is once again time to pay your annual dues. The club dues will remain at \$8.00 again this year. Don't forget that you can sign up additional family members for only \$2.00 each. They will be full club members but will not receive a monthly newsletter. This would also be a good time to encourage any friends who are not currently club members to join and get a full years benefit out of their membership.

You may pay your dues during one of the meetings this month or mail them to the club treasurer, C.J. McDonald, W1BUM, 48 Hale Street, Newton, Mass. 02164. Please use the membership form/questionnaire at the back of the newsletter.

FROM THE MAILBAG



After listening to nets conducted by other clubs, I feel that the Wellesley club should also have one. I am willing to start a net if the attendance is recognizable after two or three sessions.

So beginning Sunday, September 18th at 7:00 p.m., and every Sunday thereafter a club net will convene on W1TKZ/R, 147.63/03.

The first few minutes of the net will be devoted to club announcements pertaining to activities and then the net will call roll. Once roll-call is established a bulletin board will be taken--i.e., "who would like to talk to whom."

After the bulletin board is established, each station on the list will be given five minutes, and only five minutes, to discuss anything they wish. Order of check-in will determine when you get your five minutes. When the bulletin board is finished the net will be closed and any station

wishing to continue their rag chew may at that time.

I feel this will put the repeater on the air for a few minutes and hopefully bridge the non-communications gap that exists among the members of the communications group known as the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society.

Any comments may be directed to me on the EM2MN or HHTN or the new club net at 7:00 p.m., Sunday, the 18th of September.

73, QNI, Erik, KLOGF

NEW ENGLAND REPORT

Wang Labs has announced it will loan \$3000 worth of electronic equipment to the Wang Amateur Radio Club for packet radio experimentation. Included will be a simplex digital repeater (145.01 MHz) to allow packet radio users in northeastern Massachusetts to link their stations to one another and to a packet transponder on the UoSAT OSCAR 9.

New England Report, July 15, 1983

THE WESTLINK REPORT THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

The ARRL will request partial reconsideration from the FCC on what they feel is a restrictive clause in the new regulations governing the Novice "no mailback testing program." When in effect, one of the rules will preclude two employees of a company from giving Amateur Radio examinations to one another. The League's Executive Committee, meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, July 23rd, decided to oppose the regulation because members of industrial radio club who are involved in training fellow employees for Amateur Radio, from giving them tests. Tnx W6EJJ.

Westlink Report, July 29, 1983

California Congressman Charles Pashayan has come out publically against the proposed U.S. "No Code" Amateur license. The legislator has followed in the footsteps of Senator Barry M. Goldwater by informing the

FCC that he opposes the creation of this class of license and has also issued the following statement regarding the U.S. Amateur Service:

"Amateur Radio enthusiasts have performed countless feats of public service throughout the years, and are almost unanimous in their opposition to the proposal. I would like to think that this record of public service should not be ignored, and that this has earned these citizens the right of their opinions to be given overwhelming weight in any consideration of this or other issues affecting them." Tnx KB6CC.

The U.S. Air Force also says "No!" to No Code. In a letter to the FCC, the Air Force indicated that it sees a need for continuing Morse code proficiency among Radio Amateurs.

In blasting the FCC on its proposed No Code license class the Air Force went on record on the issue, saying that any No Code Amateur applying to join Air Force MARS would be turned away, unless he could prove his proficiency in receiving Morse code using traditional testing.

Westlink Report, August 12, 1983

The ARRL once again will seek to overturn the 10 meter amplifier ban. After learning that FCC General Docket 83-114 presented an opportunity to again make a case that the ban on 10 meter external amplifiers is an example of unnecessary regulation, the League's Executive Committee voted to direct its legal counsel Chris Imlay, N3AKD, to file comments reiterating the ARRL's continuing opposition to the moratorium.

The ban was enacted several years ago during the heyday of illegal CB high power operations as a method of curbing such illegal activities. The effect was negligible in solving the problem, with general public disenchantment with CB becoming the end result. With CB a dying entity, most Amateurs see no need to continue the amplifier prohibition.

Westlink Report, August 12, 1983

WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
1983/84 CALENDAR

9/8 VHF Contest Meeting
9/10-11 VHF QSO Party, Mt. Equinox, Vermont
9/12 General Class starts
9/15 Meeting: Newcomer's Night (budget and calendar approval)
9/18 Council of Eastern Mass. Amateur Radio Clubs meeting
9/18 First meeting of WARS net, 7:00 p.m. 147.63/03
10/6 Business Meeting
10/8 Hosstrader's Swapfest, Deerfield, NH
10/15 S.E.T.
10/16 Veteran's Parade
10/20 Meeting
10/23 Flea Market
11/3 Business meeting
11/17 Meeting
11/19-20 Sweepstakes/QSO Party
12/?? Message Fair
1/5 Business meeting
1/9 Novice Class starts
1/14-15 VHF Sweepstakes
1/19 Meeting
1/29-2/4 Novice Roundup
2/2 Business meeting
2/16 Meeting
3/1 Business meeting
3/15 Meeting and nominations
4/5 Business meeting
4/12 Marathon meeting
4/14 Auction
4/16 BAA Marathon
4/19 Meeting
5/3 Meeting
5/6 WTA Bike-A-Thon
5/6 Charles River Run
5/12? Hosstrader's Swapfest, Deerfield, NH
5/17 Business meeting and elections
6/7 Meeting
6/9-10 VHF QSO Party, Mt. Equinox, Vermont
6/21 Meeting
6/23-24 Field Day
7/19 Summer meeting: planning 1984/85
8/16 Summer meeting: planning 1984/85
8/?? VHF QSO Party, Mt. Equinox, Vermont

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name:

Call Sign:

Address:

License Class:

City, State, Zip:

ARRL Member?

Phone Number:

Which club activities do you plan to take part in?

VHF Contests (state which ones):

Message Fair

What activities not listed would you like
to see:

Field Day

Auction

Flea Market

Boston Marathon

S.E.T.

Public Service

Other:

Do you have any special knowledge, equipment, etc., that would be the
subject of a talk at a club meeting?

What do you want to get out of your club membership?

What are your special areas of interest in Amateur Radio?

Enclose \$8.00 dues and mail to:

Wellesley Amateur Radio Society
211 Washington Street
Wellesley, Mass. 02181

The Spark Gap



**WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

324 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02181

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